

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 FMC-04 COME-00 PRS-01 SY-10

DOTE-00 CG-00 SS-15 NSC-10 COA-02 CIAE-00 INR-10

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DRAFTED BY EB/MA:RWEBB:EW

7/27/73 EXT. 21313

APPROVED BY EB/MA:RWEBB

FMC: H. BENTLEY (SUBS.)

EUR/SOV: W. DYESS

EB/TT: R. WALDMANN (SUBS.)

----- 080853

R 280025Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, OTRA, UR

SUBJECT: SHIPPING TALKS: VISIT OF FMC CHAIRMAN BENTLEY

REF: (A) MOSCOW 7966; (B) MOSCOW 8249

1. AS OF PRESENT DATE WE EXPECT FOLLOWING FMC STAFF MEMBERS TO ACCOMPANY MRS. BENTLEY: ROBERT HOPE, CONFIDENTIAL ASSISTANT TO MRS. BENTLEY; THOMAS HARRIS, CHIEF OF BUREAU OF COMPLIANCE; SECRETARY FOR MRS. BENTLEY; AND POSSIBLY AN INTERPRETER. IN ADDITION, RONALD WEBB, DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF MARITIME AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WILL ACCOMPANY FMC GROUP.

2. ALL USG OFFICIALS WILL EXPECT TO PAY FOR OWN EXPENSES OF TRIP, AND EMBASSY SHOULD AT EARLY OPPORTUNITY INFORM SOVIETS THAT WE DO NOT EXPECT THEM TO PAY EXPENSES. IF SOVIETS HAVE ALREADY MADE OFFER, EMBASSY MAY CONVEY APPRE-

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CIATION OF US OFFICIALS BUT EXPLAIN THAT AS REGULATORY

AGENCY FMC OPERATES UNDER CERTAIN CONSTRAINTS WHICH PRE-  
CLUE IT FROM ACCEPTING SOVIET PAYMENT FOR EXPENSES. WE  
WOULD APPRECIATE HOWEVER IF AVERIN COULD MAKE NECESSARY  
TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS FOR VISITS TO ODESSA AND LENINGRAD.

3. WHILE WE WOULD DEFER TO SUGGESTIONS OF SOVIET HOSTS  
ON ITINERARY OUR PREFERENCE WOULD BE FOR FOLLOWING;

TIMED TO ARRIVAL AT MOSCOW AFTERNOON AUGUST 26;  
AUGUST 27-28-29 DISCUSSIONS IN MOSCOW; AUGUST 30-31,  
VISIT TO ODESSA; SEPT. 1-2-3, VISIT TO LENINGRAD;  
SEPTEMBER 4 DEPART FROM MOSCOW. (WEBB WILL VISIT ONLY  
FIRST PORT CITY IN ORDER TO DEPART MOSCOW SEPTEMBER 1).

4. UNLESS SOVIET SIDE INSISTS, WE SEE NO NEED FOR FORMAL  
AGENDA. WE BELIEVE THIS WOULD BE MORE IN KEEPING WITH  
TENOR OF DISCUSSIONS AS WE SEE THEM, I.E. INFORMATIONAL,  
WITH EXCHANGES OF VIEWS RATHER THAN ANY ATTEMPT TO  
NEGOTIATE ANY TYPES OF AGREEMENTS. FOLLOWING ARE SUB-  
JECTS US SIDE WOULD WISH TO DISCUSS OR RAISE:

A. US EXPLANATION OF ROLE OF FMC AND SOVIET EXPLANA-  
TION OF THEIR CONTROLS ON OCEAN-BORNE COMMERCE.

B. REVIEW OF STATUS OF CERTAIN TRADES, ESP. FAR EAST  
AND NORTH ATLANTIC.

C. DISCUSSION OF CERTAIN PROBLEMS IN OCEAN LINER  
TRADES; OVERTONNAGING (I.E. EXCESSIVE CARRYING  
CAPACITY OF SHIPS ON A GIVEN ROUTE IN RELATION TO  
AVAILABLE CARGO); FREIGHT RATE CUTTING AND ITS  
EFFECTS, ESPECIALLY ON LINER CONFERENCE OPERATIONS;  
MALPRACTICES (I.E. BUSINESS PRACTICES BY SHIPPING  
LINES AND/OR SHIPPERS AND/OR FREIGHT FORWARDERS CON-  
TRARY TO LAW, REGULATION, OR CONFERENCE AGREEMENT);  
CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS AND FREIGHT RATE CHANGES; AND  
DISPARITIES IN OCEAN FREIGHT RATES BETWEEN INBOUND  
AND OUTBOUND TRADES.

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D. PLANS FOR NEW SERVICES: CONTAINERSHIPS, LASH,  
INTERMODALISM, NEW ROUTES FOR SOVIET SHIPPING LINES;  
SOVIET EXPERIENCE WITH TRANS-SIBERIAN CONTAINER TRANS-  
PORT.

E. EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON UNCTAD SHIPPING MATTERS;  
DISCUSSION OF SOVIET AND US POSITIONS ON CODE OF  
CONDUCT FOR LINER CONFERENCES; SOVIET VIEWS ON

OCTOBER MEETING OF UNCTAD COMMITTEE ON SHIPPING  
AND PROPOSED EXERCISE ON COOPERATION IN MERCHANT  
SHIPPING.

F. EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN IMCO,  
ESPECIALLY REGARDING MARINE POLLUTION, AND ON QUES-  
TION OF MARITIME SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS.

FMC WOULD TAKE LEAD ON DISCUSSION OF ITEMS A - D AND  
DEPARTMENT REP ON ITEMS E AND F.

5. IN PROPOSING ABOVE LIST OF TOPICS TO SOVIETS, EMBASSY  
SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT FMC HAS HAD REGULATORY PROBLEMS  
WITH FESCO, AND THAT WE WOULD CONSIDER IT USEFUL IF REPS  
OF SOVIET SHIPPING LINES ENGAGED IN OR PLANNING TO ENTER  
US TRADES SAT IN ON DISCUSSIONS OF TOPICS A - D.

6. WE CONCUR WITH EMBASSY SUGGESTION PARA 2 OF MOSCOW  
7966 RE MEETINGS WITH SOVFRACHT AND SOVINFLOT OFFICIALS  
AND DO NOT HAVE ANY FURTHER SUGGESTIONS AT THIS TIME.

7. MRS. BENTLEY WOULD WISH TO HOST LUNCHEON OR DINNER  
FOR SOVIET SHIPPING OFFICIALS ON ONE OF THREE DAYS SPENT  
IN MOSCOW AND WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY SUGGESTIONS FOR  
APPROPRIATE GUEST LIST AND NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS.

8. WE ARE STILL INVESTIGATING POSSIBILITY OF TAKING  
INTERPRETER, AND IF THIS NOT FEASIBLE, WE WOULD HOPE  
THAT SOVIET SIDE WOULD PROVIDE TWO-WAY INTERPRETER AND  
THAT RUSSIAN-SPEAKING EMBASSY ECONOMIC OFFICER COULD  
ACCOMPANY MISSION DURING MOSCOW TALKS. ROGERS

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